

RESOLUTION

URGING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS TO ISSUE HOMESTEAD LEASES TO ITS BENEFICIARIES IN A MORE EXPEDITIOUS MANNER.

WHEREAS, in 1921, with the enactment of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, the United States set aside land to establish a permanent homeland for native Hawaiians in recognition of the severe disruptions in the political, social, and economic issues that lead to the widespread loss of land for native Hawaiians; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Homes Commission and the state Department of Hawaiian Home Lands ("DHHL") have been slow to perform its mission of providing homestead leases pursuant to the intent of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act; and

WHEREAS, as part of its 2012-2017 strategic goals and objectives, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands included an objective to "expand the variety of residential homesteading opportunities"; and

WHEREAS, as of December 31, 2011, the DHHL's applicant waiting list for Oahu includes 13,255 applications, and this list has increased in recent years; and

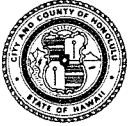
WHEREAS, DHHL's applicant waiting list for Oahu includes applications submitted as early as 1947; and

WHEREAS, according to the *State of Hawaii Data Book 2011* the DHHL is a major landowner in the state and owns 4,553.3 acres on Oahu as of July 2011; and

WHEREAS, the people of the City and County of Honolulu face a continuing shortage of affordable housing and this growing problem threatens to undermine quality of life in the city; and

WHEREAS, increasing the issuance of leases to beneficiaries by DHHL in the City and County of Honolulu would reduce demands for affordable housing and thus benefit all residents of the city in addition to Oahu's native Hawaiian families; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it urges the State Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and the Hawaiian Homes Commission to issue homestead leases to its beneficiaries in a more expeditious manner, especially in the city where the shortage of affordable housing is felt most acutely; and



CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

No. 12-281

RESOLUTION

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

INTRODUCED BY:

TOM BERG

Councilmembers

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

OCT 1 2012

Honolulu, Hawaii

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